

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
EASTERN DIVISION

12 STEVE V. ANTHONY, ) No. ED CV 10-232-CAS (PLA)  
13 Petitioner, )  
14 v. ) ORDER DISMISSING PETITION AS  
15 GARY SWARTHOUT, ) SUCCESSIVE  
16 Respondent. )

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18 On February 12, 2010, Steve V. Anthony ("petitioner") filed a Petition for Writ of Habeas  
19 Corpus by a Person in State Custody pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (the "Petition"). The instant  
20 Petition challenges his 2000 conviction in the San Bernardino County Superior Court in Case No.  
21 FV108164. (Petition at 2). On September 10, 2003, petitioner filed an earlier habeas petition in  
22 this Court, Case No. ED CV 03-1034-LGB (PLA), which also challenged his 2000 conviction. The  
23 2003 petition was dismissed on the merits with prejudice pursuant to the Judgment entered on  
24 June 8, 2004.

25 On February 17, 2010, the Magistrate Judge issued an Order to Show Cause Re: Dismissal  
26 of Successive Petition, ordering petitioner to show cause no later than March 10, 2010, why the  
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1 Petition should not be dismissed as successive.<sup>1</sup> Petitioner did not file a response to the  
2 Magistrate Judge's February 17, 2010, Order.

3

4 **DISCUSSION**

5 The Petition was filed after the enactment of the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty  
6 Act of 1996 ("the AEDPA"). Pub. L. No. 104-132, 110 Stat. 1214 (1996). Therefore, the Court  
7 applies the AEDPA in its review of this action. See Lindh v. Murphy, 521 U.S. 320, 336, 117 S.Ct.  
8 2059, 138 L.Ed.2d 481 (1997).

9 A federal habeas petition is successive if it raises claims that were or could have been  
10 adjudicated on the merits in a previous petition. Cooper v. Calderon, 274 F.3d 1270, 1273 (9th  
11 Cir. 2001) (per curiam), cert. denied, 538 U.S. 984, 123 S. Ct. 1793 (2003). A second or  
12 subsequent petition for habeas corpus is not considered "successive" if the initial or prior petition  
13 was dismissed on a technical or procedural ground rather than on the merits. See Slack v.  
14 McDaniel, 529 U.S. 473, 485-87, 120 S. Ct. 1595, 146 L. Ed. 2d 542 (2000) (holding that dismissal  
15 for failure to exhaust state remedies is not an adjudication on the merits). The AEDPA provides  
16 that a claim presented in a second or successive federal habeas petition that was not presented  
17 in a prior petition shall be dismissed unless:

18 (A) the applicant shows that the claim relies on a new rule of  
19 constitutional law, made retroactive to cases on collateral review by  
the Supreme Court, that was previously unavailable; or

20 (B)(i) the factual predicate for the claim could not have been  
21 discovered previously through the exercise of due diligence; and

22 (ii) the facts underlying the claim, if proven and viewed in light of the  
evidence as a whole, would be sufficient to establish by clear and  
convincing evidence that, but for constitutional error, no reasonable

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25 <sup>1</sup> In the February 17, 2010, Order to Show Cause, the Magistrate Judge also advised  
26 petitioner that if he wished to file a successive habeas application, he was required to file a  
27 "Motion for Order Authorizing District Court to Consider Second or Successive Petition Pursuant  
28 to 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(3)(A)" directly with the Ninth Circuit. The Magistrate Judge further advised  
petitioner that until the Ninth Circuit issues such an order, any direct or implied request for a  
second or successive petition for writ of habeas corpus is barred by § 2244(b) and must be  
dismissed without prejudice.

1 factfinder would have found the applicant guilty of the underlying  
2 offense.

3 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(2)(A), (B).

4 In his 2003 federal habeas challenge, petitioner raised the following claims: (1) the trial  
5 court abused its discretion by denying petitioner's motion for a continuance; (2) petitioner's  
6 sentence violates the Eighth Amendment's proscription against cruel and unusual punishment and  
7 petitioner's sentence is disproportionate to the crime for which he was convicted; and (3) the trial  
8 court violated petitioner's right to a fair trial when it instructed the jury with CALJIC No. 17.41.1.  
9 (See Report and Recommendation in Case No. ED CV 03-1034-LGB (PLA), issued on March 23,  
10 2004, at p. 4). As mentioned above, the action was dismissed on the merits and with prejudice.  
11 (See Order Adopting Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation and Judgment, both  
12 entered on June 8, 2004).

13 In the instant Petition, petitioner sets forth three claims, which were not presented in his  
14 2003 federal habeas action. (See Petition at 5-6). Specifically, petitioner claims: (1) the trial  
15 court's finding that petitioner's prior conviction was a "strike" was erroneous in light of petitioner's  
16 plea agreement in the prior case; (2) the trial court's use of petitioner's prior conviction violated  
17 his constitutional rights; and (3) petitioner received ineffective assistance of trial counsel. (Petition  
18 at 5-6).

19 Even if petitioner's claim in the instant Petition satisfied 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(2)(A) or §  
20 2244(b)(2)(B), "[b]efore a second or successive application permitted by this section is filed in the  
21 district court, the applicant shall move in the appropriate court of appeals for an order authorizing  
22 the district court to consider the application." 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(3)(A). There is no indication  
23 in the instant Petition, or in the overall record, that petitioner has obtained such authorization from  
24 the Ninth Circuit. See Burton v. Stewart, 549 U.S. 147, 127 S. Ct. 793, 796, 166 L. Ed. 2d 628  
25 (2007) (AEDPA requires petitioner to receive authorization from the Court of Appeals before filing  
26 a second habeas petition).

27 In the February 17, 2010, Order to Show Cause Re: Dismissal of Successive Petition, the  
28 Magistrate Judge advised petitioner that a review of his Petition indicated that it was successive,

1 and he was ordered to show cause why his Petition should not be dismissed on that basis.  
2 Petitioner was advised that unless he submitted documentation to the Court on or before March  
3 10, 2010, showing that he filed a motion in the Ninth Circuit for an order authorizing the District  
4 Court to consider a successive petition **and that the Ninth Circuit issued such an order**, the  
5 Petition would be dismissed without prejudice.

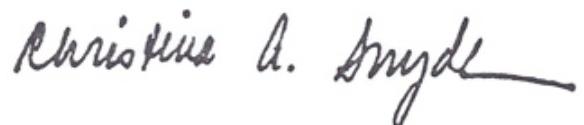
6 Here, petitioner did not respond to the Court's February 17, 2010, Order, and has not  
7 presented any documentation showing that the Ninth Circuit issued an order authorizing the  
8 District Court to consider a successive petition. As such, the Court concludes that it is without  
9 jurisdiction to entertain the Petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b). See id.; Cooper, 274 F.3d at 1274  
10 ("When the AEDPA is in play, the district court may not, in the absence of proper authorization  
11 from the court of appeals, consider a second or successive habeas application.").

12 Accordingly, the Court finds that dismissal of the instant Petition is appropriate as it is  
13 successive, and petitioner has not provided any documentation to this Court showing that he  
14 received authorization from the Ninth Circuit to file a successive petition.

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16 **ORDER**

17 It is hereby **ORDERED** that judgment be entered dismissing the Petition without prejudice  
18 as successive.



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20 DATED: March 25, 2010  
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23 Presented by:  
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26 PAUL L. ABRAMS  
27 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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HONORABLE CHRISTINA A. SNYDER  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE